

# County Candidates Filing Requirements

## 2014 County Candidate Filing Requirements

### Filing Period - March 3 through March 14, 2014

**The required declaration and petitions/filing fee must be received by the County Clerk no later than 5:00 p.m. on March 14th.**

**Partisan and judicial candidates** have two options to be placed on the ballot:

1. File declaration of candidacy and pay the filing fee or
2. File declaration of candidacy and nominating petitions, containing certain number of verified signatures.

**Independent candidates** do not have the two options. An independent candidate must file the declaration and petition. Independent candidates do not pay a filing fee. Independent Candidate residency, age and disclosure requirements for county offices are the same as the requirements for partisan candidates.

**Write-in candidates** must file a Declaration of Intent by April 22.

**All candidates** must also appoint a **Political Treasurer** at time of filing. A change of political treasurer may be done at any time.

Declaration of Candidacy and Petition forms can be obtained by calling or mailing a written request to the Teton County Clerk's office, (208)354-8780, 150 Courthouse Dr #208, Driggs ID 83422.

Office	Idaho Code	Residency	Age	Fee	Filing Qualified Signatures	Campaign Disclosure
County Commissioner Dist. 1 (4 yr. term) Dist. 2 (2 yr. term)	Sec. 34-617	1 year within County preceding general election, 90 days in district which he/she represents prior to primary election	21	\$40	5 from the Commissioner District verified prior to filing	County Clerk C-1 Form & Reports
County Clerk	Sec. 34-619	1 year within County preceding general election	21	\$40	5 signatures from County verified prior to filing	County Clerk C-1 Form & Reports
County Treasurer	Sec. 34-620	1 year within County preceding general election	21	\$40	5 signatures from County verified prior to filing	County Clerk C-1 Form & Reports

County Assessor	Sec. 34-621	1 year within County preceding general election	21	\$40	5 signatures from County verified prior to filing	County Clerk C-1 Form & Reports
County Coroner	Sec. 34-622	1 year within County preceding general election	21	\$40	5 signatures from County verified prior to filing	County Clerk C-1 Form & Reports
Precinct Committee Person	Sec. 34-624	6 months within precinct preceding primary election	18	NA	NA	NA
Magistrate Judge (File no later than August 6)	Sec. 1-2206 and Sec. 1-2220	Runs for retention [yes/no vote] See Code Section	30	\$40	NA	County Clerk C-1 Form & Reports

There are two ways to begin the process of putting an optional form of government on the ballot. First the governing body may pass a resolution for submission of the question to the electors or upon a petition signed by 15% of qualified electors, the governing body shall put the question on the ballot. In either case, the question is submitted at a general election (31-5004).

There is also a provision for the establishment of a study commission to study the existing form of county government, compare it to other optional forms and submit a report and any recommendations for change to the board (31-5101). The board of county commissioners appoints a five to nine member commission upon receiving a petition signed by 15% of qualified electors who voted in the last general election or by resolution of the commissioners (31-5101). The study commission, within one year of its first meeting, must conduct one or more public hearings prior to its submission of its final report to the governing body. If the study commission recommends an optional form, the report must contain a complete description of the form and a comparison of the existing form and proposed form (31-5105). If the study commission was established by resolution, the governing body may or may not submit the question of the optional form to the voters. If the commission was established by petition, the recommendation for an optional form must be submitted to the electors of the county (31-5106).

### **Provisions That Relate to All Forms**

Each county is divided into county commissioner districts (31-704). Commissioners must meet the residency requirements in the county and district which they represent and must be a resident in the district which they represent for a period of ninety (90) days preceding the primary election (31-702; 31-703; 34-617). However, a commissioner is elected by a county-wide vote.

A candidate for county elected office must be twenty-one years of age, a U.S. citizen, and must have resided in the county for one (1) year preceding the election and in the district which he/she represents for a period of ninety (90) days next preceding his election (34-617 through 34-623). In the case of county commissioners, the candidate must be a resident of the district 90 days prior to the primary election (34-617). At the time of filing a declaration of candidacy, the candidate for county office must also pay a filing fee. This fee is \$40 for all county officers; however, in lieu of the filing fee, a candidate can qualify by filing a declaration of candidacy and nominating petition with a specific number of signatures (34-626).

A person who claims a county office without being rightfully entitled to the office is subject to usurpation proceedings (6-602), and all elected officers, except judicial officials, are subject to recall by the legal voters of the county (Article 6, Section 6).

### **Original Three-Member Board**

Until 1996, this was the only form of county government allowed under the state constitution and is still the only form used in all 44 counties. This form consists of three elected commissioners that serve two and four-year terms. The board of county commissioners is the governing body of the county with power to adopt a budget, levy county taxes, and enact ordinances. The board may appoint administrative assistants or a member of the board to act as an administrator. A county commissioner that is appointed to act as the administrator has only those administrative powers and duties that are assigned by ordinance or resolution (31-818). The board has significant appointive,